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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 26 | Min 20 | Humidity 87% Thunderstorms and Cloudy Sensex 79,857 | Nifty 24,363 | Gold 1,01,768 | Silver 1,15,031 | Dollar 87.49 | Euro 101.98 | GBP 117.62

DUPE DEAL

Middleman at sub-registrar's office takes property seller on a ride, post-dated cheques turn out to be duds

PAGE 3

OFF TO A START

Yellow Line will ease travel to E-City, but commuters will have to wait until March 2026 to get 1 train every 6 minutes

PAGE 6

As hundreds of cybercrime cases get reported across police stations in one day across Karnataka, with majority of them in B'luru, we take a look at the most common frauds doing the rounds

THE GREAT INDIAN COURIER TRICK

Scamsters route ill-gotten money through multiple accounts to evade detection

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Cybercriminals are back with a vengeance — and this time, they're deploying a coordinated scam involving fake courier calls, mobile hacks, and fraudulent payment links. In just one day, hundreds of cases have been reported across police stations in Karnataka, leaving victims in shock and financial distress.

Victims reported receiving phone calls from individuals claiming to represent well-known courier services. The caller typically informs the victim that an important document — such as a bank paper or LIC file — has arrived, but the address is incorrect.

They then ask the victim to call a "delivery boy" and confirm the address. As soon as the victim dials

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PAGE 7: APK FILES & SIM CARD THREAT

"Once a phone is hacked, the attackers deactivate it and begin messaging the victim's friends and family, asking for emergency money transfers. They often share UPI IDs

— Police official

Conflict zone

In 2.5 years, 14 human-wildlife conflict cases reported around Roerich estate; planned project will only make matters worse, forest dept says

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Over the last 2.5 years, the Karnataka Forest Department has paid a total ex-gratia amount of nearly Rs 2.5 lakh for damages caused by wild animals in areas adjacent to Roerich and Devika Rani Estate.

This amount has been paid in 14 cases of human-wildlife conflict involving elephants and leopards. Out of these, while nine cases of property and crop damage involved elephants, six cases involved leopards attacking cattle.

Between June and December 2022, two conflict cases led to payment of Rs 31,750 as ex-gratia, followed by Rs 1.06 lakh in 2023, more than Rs 27,000 in 2024, and nearly Rs 80,000 in the first two months of this year.

Officials from the Karnataka Forest Department say that the Rs 99.2-crore ecotourism and cultural hub project at Roerich and Devika Rani Estate by the Karnataka Tourism Department will only aggravate the human-wildlife conflict situation in the region.

"If the proposed ecotourism and cultural hub project by the Tourism Department is given a green signal, there will be a dramatic surge in human-wildlife conflict cases in Bengaluru's outskirts. The estate area also abuts the BM Kaval State Forest and is strategically located between Bannerghatta National Park and Savandurga Forest, which is an elephant corridor too. Any disturbance to this patch will lead to a surge in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Natural brilliance

Shades of Green is presenting 'Songs of Nature', a special curation of lighting designs by Oorjaa, a conscious design studio renowned for transforming natural waste into luminous works of art. The immersive showcase highlights iconic pieces alongside a new collection inspired by the quiet intelligence of the natural world. **Where: Sabha, Kamaraj Road; When: August 8 to 13, 11 am to 7 pm**

02 Tech fiesta

Techstination, the popular Tech IP of Nexus Select Malls, is back with its third edition, bringing a wide range of gadgets and appliances from top electronics brands which are perfect for anyone planning to upgrade their personal or home tech. **Where: Nexus Shantiniketan Mall, Nexus; Whitefield Mall, Nexus Vega City Mall; When: Until August 17, 11 am to 9 pm**

03 Artistic journey

Sublime Galleria is presenting 'Charcoal in Stillness and Motion', an art exhibition featuring exquisite works by artist Gautam Bansal. **Where: Sublime Galleria, UB City; When: Open from August 8**

04 Musical evening

Vineeth Srinivasan will be performing his most loved hits live with his band, as part of Vineeth Sreenivasan Reloaded 2.0 Tour, promising a night of rhythm, and musical magic. **Where: Phoenix Marketcity, Whitefield; When: August 23, 6 pm**

05 Floral tribute

The 218th edition of the iconic Lalbagh Flower Show is featuring elaborate floral arrangements celebrating the valour of freedom fighters Kittur Rani Chennamma and Sangolli Rayanna. **Where: Lalbagh Botanical Garden, Mavalli; When: August 7 to 18 , 10 am onwards**

I-Day special: Security tightened with citywide checkpoints

With Independence Day celebrations and upcoming festivals like Gauri-Ganesha on the calendar, police have stepped up security across the city. Armed officers have set up checkpoints in every police station jurisdiction to prevent untoward incidents. Police Commissioner B Dayananda has instructed stations to identify high-footfall areas and conduct strict vehicle checks. As a result, areas such as Ashoknagar, Cubbon Park, Upparpet, Jayanagar, JP Nagar, Halasuru Gate, Peenya, Whitefield, Koramangala, Vijayanagar, Kengeri, Yelahanka, Hebbal, JC Nagar, Chamarajpet, and Mahadevapura are witnessing naka bandis, where officers—equipped with body-worn cameras and firearms—are inspecting vehicles. Suspicious individuals or unusual vehicle movements will be immediately dealt with under the heightened security plan. **— BMB**

MY VOICE BangaloreMirror

WHEN THE CITY SPEAKS, WE LISTEN

Undeterred by weather, citizens gather with determination to share long-pending civic concerns with BM under flagship citizen-connect initiative 'My Voice, My Bangalore Mirror'

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PICS: KAUSHIK JN

As Bengaluru woke up to a grey, rain-washed morning with clouds hanging low over the skyline on Sunday, Bangalore Mirror set out on a mission bigger than the weather. With our flagship citizen-connect initiative 'My Voice, My Bangalore Mirror', we stepped beyond the pages of the newspaper to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with our readers—listening to their concerns, amplifying their voices, and ensuring they reach the corridors of power where real change begins.

A specially designed Bangalore Mirror van braved the wet roads, carrying with it a promise—that no citizen's voice would be drowned out by the downpour. We began our journey at KSFC Layout, where residents, undeterred by the weather, gathered with determination to share long-pending civic concerns.

From there, we moved to Richards Park, where the drizzle didn't dampen the spirit of locals eager to be heard. At Komala Junction, people stood shoulder to shoulder, united by a shared hope for change. Our final stop at Maruti Sevanagar Branch brought together a community that refuses to stay silent, rain or shine.

What we saw was far more than complaints—it was resilience. It was the belief that change is possible when voices come together. Residents repeatedly told us, "Thank you, Bangalore Mirror, for being our voice." Those words are more than gratitude—they are a call to action, and we are here to answer it.

At Bangalore Mirror, we have always been more than just a newspaper. We are a movement, a platform, and a relentless advocate for the people of Bengaluru. 'My Voice, My Bangalore Mirror' is not a one-day effort—it is our ongoing promise to fight for every citizen, every issue, every time.

To all who stepped out into the rain today to meet us, share their stories, and place their trust in us—thank you. Together, we will make sure Bengaluru's concerns don't just echo in the drizzle, but thunder in the ears of those who can bring change. Bengaluru, keep speaking. Rain or shine, we're here to make your voice impossible to ignore.

We have come back with myriad stories and plan to take up each issue over the coming days.

Seller gets duped in property scam

Anekal resident who was cheated by middlemen during sale of his land says scam involving documents came to light when he tried to avail copy of agreement deed from Sub-Registrar Office

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Man gets conned by middlemen who allegedly made him sign sale documents with incorrect transaction amount

In a shocking incident that underscores the importance of vigilance during property transactions, a man was scammed by middlemen who tricked him into signing sale documents with a significantly lower amount than what had been agreed upon. The fraudsters allegedly prepared two versions of the sale deed page that listed the transaction amount. While the correct version was shown to the seller for verification, they switched it at the time of signing with a copy containing the reduced amount.

Sai Prakash from Indalwadi village of Anekal Taluk fell prey to a scam by middlemen at Anekal Sub-Registrar Office, during the sale of his land. Sai Prakash agreed to sell 8 acres and 27 guntas for Rs 14 crore. The middlemen made Sai Prakash sign the agreement deed on July 21, 2025. While signing the agreement deed for registration, the middlemen ensured the portion (details of the amount for which the land was being sold) on page 6 of the agreement deed was covered with the previous page, and asked the seller to sign the

document. The seller affixed the signature, following which the middlemen took the document inside the Sub-Registrar Office. Later, they told him that they would arrange the copy of the agreement deed after it is registered at the Sub-Registrar Office.

The buyer issued a demand draft for Rs 1.25 crore and five cheques for Rs 3.75 crore to the seller. However, the cheques were dishonoured due to blocking of the bank account.

"I came to know about the fraud on July 28 when I availed the copy of the agreement deed from the Sub-Registrar Office. I trusted them but they cheated me. I, with no other option, lodged a complaint with Surya Nagar Police," said Sai Prakash.

Surya Nagar Police, based on Sai Prakash's complaint, registered a First Information Report (FIR) on August 1, 2025, against Arun HM of Shikaripur and Umesh of Anekal under Sections 316 (2) and 318 (4) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023.

"I trusted the buyer who claimed to be non-resident Indian but he cheated me," Sai Prakash said.

According to the documents available with Bangalore Mirror, the middlemen prepared two copies of page 6 – one copy mentioning the total amount as Rs 14 crore and the other copy stating the total amount as Rs 8,67,50,000. They produced the agreement copy that showed the total amount as Rs 14 crore to the seller for verification. Later they removed the page 6 (with Rs 14 crore) and included the other copy that mentioned the total amount as Rs 8,67,50,000 and made the seller sign the agreement deed. Sai Prakash, who had already verified the document, blindly signed the documents without reexamining the agreed upon amount.

Surya Nagar Police are currently investigating the case.

Tank land encroachment: Eviction notice upheld

The Karnataka High Court dismissed a petition filed by five Bengaluru residents challenging a show-cause notice issued by the Prescribed Officer, Tanks Encroachment and Eviction Execution Engineer, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). The notice, issued under the Karnataka Tank Conservation and Development Authority Act, 2014, aimed to evict unauthorised occupants from tank land.

"This court is of the clear opinion that the petitioners' argument that the pendency of proceedings before the special court under the Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition Act, 2011, renders the present proceedings under the Karnataka Tank Conservation and Development Authority Act, 2014, sub judice is both misconceived and untenable," said Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum while dismissing the petitions filed by G V Manjunath, Tamil Arasi, Palaniyammal Raja, N Sundara Murthy and Shivaraman J. The petitioners had challenged the legality of the show-cause notice dated November 29, 2024.

The petitioners claimed ownership over residential properties located in Sy No 158/2AB of Vibhuthipura village in KR Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East taluk. They relied on registered sale deeds, photographs evidencing the construction of residential houses, khata certificates bearing their names in the BBMP property register, and tax paid receipts as evidence.

Following a complaint filed by the tahsildar, the Bengaluru Metropolitan Task Force registered an FIR in 2013 under the Karnataka Land Revenue Act. Subsequently, a special court was constituted under the Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition Act, 2011, and the matters are now being heard by the special court. The petitioners argued that the initiation of parallel proceedings under the 2014 Act was legally unsustainable due to the pending case before the special court.

However, the court noted that the Prescribed Officer is legally empowered to initiate an independent inquiry to determine whether the petitioners were in unauthorised occupation of tank land. The inquiry concluded that they had encroached upon tank land, and the Prescribed Officer acted within his powers to summarily evict the petitioners as per Section 22 of the 2014 Act.

Justice Magadum further stated that the legislative framework under the 2014 Act ensures adequate checks and balances. Specifically, Section 25 of the Act states that if the Prescribed Officer fails to discharge his duties or acts in dereliction thereof, he shall be liable to a departmental inquiry and may face a penalty of Rs 10,000. — BMB

Monsoon session to be heated

The monsoon session of Karnataka legislature is scheduled to begin here on Monday, with the ruling Congress and opposition BJP-JD(S) alliance expected to lock horns on a number of issues. The opposition is expected to corner the government on several issues, including its "misrule" and lack of funding for development, along with the handling of the RCB celebrations and alleged mismanagement of fertiliser distribution. — BMB

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Want not, waste not

Solid waste management authority once again readies to get garbage crisis in control

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Most of the waste generated daily in Bengaluru still ends up in landfills

After a long legal battle and years of delay, Bengaluru is set to restructure its garbage collection and disposal system with a new tender process. In a renewed effort to bring Bengaluru's mounting garbage crisis under control, the Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) is gearing up to call for fresh tenders for household waste collection and disposal across the city.

In September 2022, the city was divided into 59 waste management packages across 225 wards, and tenders were floated to streamline collection and transport of solid waste. However, several contractors challenged the process in court. The High Court, after hearing the case, dismissed the contractors' petitions and directed the government to complete the tender process within four months. This verdict has now cleared the way for implementation.

Following the court directive, BSWML is now preparing to invite new tenders to ensure efficient and structured waste management. However, discussions on the number of packages and estimated project cost are yet to be finalised.

Tenders delayed for over 6 years

Sources said that the city's solid waste disposal under a formal tender system has remained stalled since 2019. The powerful garbage mafia has reportedly prevented the implementation of tenders. Even a previous attempt to float tenders across 89 packages met with resistance from certain contractors.

Key Stats

- **Daily waste generation:** 6,115 metric tonnes
- **Waste reaching landfills:** ~5,000 metric tonnes
- Annual expenditure on waste management:
- **2021-22:** ₹574.47 crore
- **2022-23:** ₹582.28 crore
- **2023-24:** ₹594.70 crore
- **2024-25** (estimated): ₹670 crore

Consequently, for over six years, the city has been running its waste management through temporary contracts without a structured system.

Currently, garbage collection is being carried out using auto tippers and compactors, with payments being processed via "DC bills." Allegations of massive corruption in this billing system have surfaced. It is claimed that fewer vehicles are being deployed than recorded, and fake bills are being created to siphon off crores of rupees. Even civic officials are allegedly involved. Despite the implementation of the Solid Waste Management Bylaw, 2020, garbage continues to pose a huge challenge for the BBMP.

Violations of guidelines

According to the Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, which were framed based on a directive from the National Green Tribunal in 2010, mixed waste should not be dumped in landfills. Yet, nearly a decade later, most of the waste generated daily in Bengaluru still ends up in landfills. Activists said that the BBMP's seven waste processing units, established in 2014-15 with a grant of 323.45 crore, have a combined processing capacity of 1,620 metric tonnes per day, but they are operating at less than 50% capacity. As a result, organic waste is not being converted into compost as it should be.

Decentralised approach

According to M Lokesh, Chief Engineer, BSWML, preparations are underway to float a new tender for door-to-door waste collection and disposal. Until integrated solid waste management units are set up on the outskirts of the city in four directions, the BBMP plans to continue using the tender model for garbage disposal. Land parcels of 100 acres each have already been identified in two of these directions for new waste processing facilities.

> **"Preparations are underway to float a new tender for door-to-door waste collection and disposal**
>
> –M Lokesh, Chief Engineer, BSWML

BSWML is also considering entrusting a single agency with the responsibility of collecting and segregating wet and dry waste to bring about radical reforms in the city's garbage management system.

Unauthorised constructions to face the heat

In a move to curb unauthorised constructions, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has announced a stringent policy for builders and property owners. The BBMP has now made it mandatory for builders and property owners to submit completion certificates before transferring flats or properties to buyers. The issuance of the layout approval (map approval) will only occur once the completion certificate and occupancy certificate (OC) are submitted.

This move comes as a response to the ongoing issue of illegal constructions that have been circumventing official approvals and permissions. These constructions have led to significant financial losses for the city corporation.

The BBMP has also identified thousands of such unauthorised buildings but has yet to take any substantial demolition actions.

A BBMP official said, "To address this, the BBMP has introduced a set of guidelines aimed at enforcing stricter measures to prevent unauthorised buildings. City planners and sub-divisional engineers will now be required to conduct regular inspections every two months to ensure compliance with the approved building plans. Reports on any violations will be submitted by the respective authorities to higher officials for further action."

In line with a Supreme Court order, any construction that deviates from the approved layout will face consequences, with immediate termination of water and electricity connections for such unauthorised buildings. The BBMP has directed the Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM) and Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) to disconnect the temporary or permanent services provided to these buildings. Additionally, officials failing to curb illegal constructions will be held accountable under Section 252 of the BBMP Act-2020 and the Karnataka Civil Service (Conduct) Rules.

BMB

32 automated vehicle testing centres to be set up for fitness certificates

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The state government has planned to establish 32 Automated Vehicle Testing Centres (ATS) to conduct vehicle fitness assessments in a fully automated and precise manner. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has instructed state transport departments to set up ATS across the country to reduce accidents caused by unfit vehicles. So far, ATS centres have been set up in 14 states, but Karnataka has not implemented them.

MoRTH has repeatedly directed the state's transport department in this regard. Consequently, plans are now underway to establish 32 ATS centres in Karnataka through Public-Private Partnerships (PPP).

₹374.13-crore investment

The transport department is set to implement the plan in two phases. In the first phase, 32 locations will be identified for the establishment of ATS, either on land owned by the department or acquired from local authorities. In areas where suitable land cannot be found, private contractors will identify and establish ATS centers. The estimated cost for this project is ₹374.13 crore.

A transport department official said, "Until now, vehicle fitness was assessed manually by Regional Transport Office (RTO) officials, who issued fitness certificates.

However, this system sometimes resulted in certificates being issued to vehicles that were unfit. To address this, automated centres will now conduct vehicle inspections with transparency, recorded via video."

Vehicles ranging from two-wheelers to heavy vehicles will undergo 39 types of tests, including checks on headlights, brakes, silencers, engines, batteries, and seats. If any component fails the test, the vehicle will be deemed unfit for road use, and this will be noted on the fitness certificate.

Software-based evaluation

All test results will be recorded and processed through software, eliminating manual interference. Fitness certificates will be issued based on software analysis, ensuring a transparent and automated process.

> **"Until now, vehicle fitness was assessed manually by RTO officials, who issued fitness certificates**
>
> –Transport Dept official

Commercial vehicles must undergo fitness tests every two years until they are eight years old, and annually after that. Private vehicles will undergo fitness assessments every five years after they turn 15. Vehicles passing all tests will receive a fitness certificate valid nationwide, and no further testing will be required in any state.

HIGH COURT

Minor tried as adult: 'Trial flawed from outset'

Life sentence voided as accused was 16 when he murdered brother-in-law

Fifteen years after a 2011 murder, the High Court ruled that the prime accused, who had spent 13 years in prison, was a juvenile at the time and should never have been tried as an adult. The court's decision provides relief for Channappa, who was convicted in 2018 for killing his sister's husband in Yadgir District.

Although the High Court upheld his conviction for the crime, it voided the life sentence and ordered compensation of Rs 50,000 for the wrongful trial under the new Juvenile Justice Rules, 2025.

In April 2011, 16-year-old Channappa from Halisagar in Yadgir District, along with his friend Saibanna, killed 23-year-old Bheemaraya with a sword. Bheemaraya had eloped with Channappa's sister, Lakshmi, against the family's wishes. The attack took place late at night as Bheemaraya was returning from a movie with his friend Bhimanna, who was injured in the assault.

Despite being a minor, Channappa was tried as an adult by the Yadgir Sessions Court and, in 2018, was sentenced to life imprisonment with a fine of Rs 2,000. His co-accused, Saibanna, died before the trial concluded. Channappa challenged his conviction on several grounds, including the reliability of prosecution witnesses and discrepancies in the nature of the injuries inflicted. He also maintained that he was only 16 years old at the time and should have been treated as a juvenile, leading him to approach the High Court.

The division bench of Justices Sunil Dutt Yadav and Ramachandra D Huddar determined that the trial was flawed from the outset. They emphasised that authorities must identify juveniles at the first point of contact by strictly adhering to prescribed rules. This includes verifying an offender's age when police encounter a suspect with doubts about juvenility and during remand by a magistrate. The court highlighted the significance of the recently enacted Karnataka State Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2025, which aim to prevent juveniles from being wrongly incarcerated as adults.

Given that Channappa had already served thirteen years in jail, the bench found it unnecessary to refer the matter to the Juvenile Justice Board under Section 20 of the Act of 2000. Instead, it directed the board to award Channappa compensation under Rule 6 (xiv) (f) of The Karnataka State Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2025, without requiring a new enquiry into his juvenility or compensation. **BMB**

India's second-largest cricket stadium to come up near Bommasandra

In the wake of the recent stampede incident near Chinnaswamy Stadium, the Karnataka government has decided to construct a massive new international cricket stadium in Bengaluru's outskirts.

Planned with a seating capacity of 80,000, the facility will become India's second-largest and the world's third-largest cricket stadium. The Karnataka Housing Board (KHB) will develop the ₹1,650 crore project on a 100-acre plot at Surya Nagar, about 28 km from Chinnaswamy Stadium. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has approved the plan, and the foundation stone is expected to be laid within the next few months. Notably, the entire cost and maintenance will be handled by KHB, with no direct financial aid from the state government.

The sports complex will feature more than just cricket — it will house stadiums for eight indoor and eight outdoor sports, separate hostels for men and women, guest houses for international athletes, a gym, a swimming pool, restaurants, and an international seminar hall. This move also aligns with recommendations from the Justice Michael D'Cunha inquiry commission, which suggested shifting Chinnaswamy Stadium to the city's periphery following the crowd crush incident during the RCB victory celebrations.

Once completed, the new Bommasandra stadium is likely to host all major international matches, marking a significant shift in Bengaluru's sporting landscape. **BMB**

K'taka CEO asks Rahul Gandhi to share documents to support claim

The Karnataka chief electoral officer on Sunday issued a notice to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, asking him to share documents based on which he had alleged that a woman voted twice.

The state's top poll officer told Gandhi that the documents will help his office carry out a detailed inquiry. Gandhi had shown the documents at a press conference in the national capital last week.

"You have also stated that as per the records given by the polling officer, Smt Shakun Rani had voted twice... On inquiry, Smt Sakun Rani has stated that she has voted only once and not twice, as alleged by you," the notice read.

A preliminary inquiry conducted by the CEO's office also revealed that the tick-marked document shown by the Congress leader in the presentation was not issued by the polling officer, the letter said.

"Therefore, you are kindly requested to provide the relevant documents on the basis of which you have concluded that Smt Shakun Rani or anyone else has voted twice, so that a detailed inquiry can be undertaken by this office," the notice stated. **PTI**

Culture, Music & Joy at VK Street Fest

PICS: KS SRIDHAR

The **'VK Street Festival'** organised by Vijay Karnataka, the state's most-read newspaper, drew massive crowds to Rangoli Metro Art Center at MG Road Metro Station on Sunday. Traditional games, music, dance, and DJ beats created a vibrant entertainment feast for all.

Being a weekend, people of all ages—from children to grandparents—joined the celebrations, enjoying cultural performances like Dollu Kunitha and Kamsale.

Stalls selling toys, handicrafts, sarees, and jewelry added charm, while children's art activities, pet exhibitions, and fun games like buguri, snake-and-ladder, ludo, and carrom kept visitors engaged.

Dance performances by Shree Natya Shankar students earned loud applause, and winners of the art contest received prizes.

Zumba sessions, with energetic music, had everyone dancing, while the Bengaluru Beats Band mesmerized the audience with Kannada and Hindi tunes on flute, saxophone, drums, harmonium, and percussion. Later, actors Sachin Chaluvarayaswamy and Akshata Bopayya entertained the crowd. Inaugurating the event, MLA and BDA Chairman N.A. Haris stressed unity beyond caste and religion.

Dr. Samarth Arya of Manipal Hospital praised the festival for bringing a village fair-like atmosphere to the city, fostering social harmony. The event became a lively platform for togetherness and joy.

Wait until 2026 for E-city metro every 6 minutes

Following skill assessment and training for technicians, delivery of more trains is expected by March 2026, paving way for improved frequency of operation

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Bengaluru took a major step in its metro journey on Sunday as Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Yellow Line of Namma Metro, connecting RV Road (Ragigudda) to Bommasandra. The 19.15-km corridor with 16 stations promises to ease travel to the bustling IT hub of Electronic City, but commuters will have to wait until March 2026 to experience a train every six minutes. For now, services will operate at a 25-minute frequency.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Yellow Line of Namma Metro, connecting RV Road (Ragigudda) to Bommasandra, on Sunday

Inordinate delay

The delay is due to staggered delivery of train sets. The first and second trains fully assembled in India were received on February 9, 2025, and May 13, 2025. The third, built entirely in India including the car body shells, rolled out on July 31, 2024. Skill assessment and specialised process training for technicians at Titagarh Rail Systems Limited (TRSL) slowed initial assembly. However, with skills now improved, the delivery pace is expected to pick up. TRSL plans to hand over 7 CBTC and 2 DTG trains by December 2025, enabling an 8-minute frequency. All 15 trains are expected by March 2026, paving the way for a 6-minute headway on the Yellow Line.

Ticket in hand, PM Modi leads the ride

Before flagging off the line, PM Modi bought a ticket from a QR-enabled vending machine at Ragigudda Metro Station. Accompanied by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy CM DK Shivakumar, the Prime Minister then took a ride to Bommanahalli. With this launch, Bengaluru's operational metro network now spans over 96 km, covering a significant portion of the city. The Yellow Line, part of Metro Phase-2, has been built at a cost of Rs 7,160 crore.

Centre vs State: Credit debate

Sharing the stage with PM Modi at the event, CM Siddaramaiah pointed out that the State has borne a larger financial burden for Bengaluru's metro than the Centre, despite the project being a 50:50 partnership. He acknowledged the Centre's technical and financial assistance but noted much of it came as loans and equity that the State must repay. So far, he said, Rs 3,987 crore has been refunded.

Turn in political dynamics

What caught everyone's attention was the unusually cordial interaction between CM Siddaramaiah, Deputy CM Shivakumar, and PM Modi. Known for their sharp criticisms of the Prime Minister, the two Congress leaders were seen chatting, laughing, and engaging in friendly conversation throughout the event. During the metro ride, they sat on either side of PM Modi, pointing out city landmarks and discussing the project. The visuals quickly went viral on social media.

Children and workers share ride

In a gesture of inclusion, 8 children, 16 girl students from government schools, and 8 metro workers involved in the Yellow Line's construction travelled alongside the Prime Minister. He interacted warmly with them, making the inaugural journey a memorable one.

Foundation stone for Phase-3

During his visit, PM Modi also laid the foundation for Metro Phase-3, worth over Rs 15,610 crore. This 'Orange Line' will span more than 44 km with 31 elevated stations across two corridors — JP Nagar 4th Phase to Kempapura (32.15 km) and Hosahalli to Kadabagere (12.5 km).

From jokes to plans

Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar recalled a popular joke — that it's faster to reach Delhi or Mumbai by flight than to return home from the Bengaluru airport. "We accepted this challenge under the Prime Minister's leadership," he said, adding that in the coming years, Bengaluru will have the second-best metro network after Delhi.

Shivakumar's big ask for Bengaluru

Deputy CM Shivakumar seized the opportunity to hand over a letter to PM Modi, seeking Rs 1.5 lakh crore for Bengaluru's infrastructure. He listed projects such as urban tunnels, the Bengaluru Business Corridor, integrated waste plants, elevated roads along metro lines, flyovers, drinking water schemes, new stormwater drain roads, and the Regional Rapid Transit System.

Railways offers 20% discounts for festive season

The Railway Ministry has rolled out a festive season offer, giving passengers a 20 per cent discount on fares when they book onward and return tickets together in advance. This offer applies for journeys between October 13–26 and November 17 to December 1, with bookings starting August 14. The scheme comes with key conditions: both tickets must be booked in the same passenger's name, confirmed for both legs, without any change in travel class, and the return journey must be to the original departure station. — BMB

35 stray dogs captured ahead of PM's visit

In preparation for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Bengaluru on Sunday, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) captured over 35 stray dogs from various parts of the city on Saturday. The drive was carried out in and around the venues where the Prime Minister's programmes were scheduled to take place. As part of the operation, the BBMP's Animal Husbandry Department caught 20 stray dogs from the premises and surrounding areas of the Krantivira Sangolli Rayanna Railway Station, 5 from around Konappana Agrahara Metro Station, and 10 near the helipad in Electronic City. — BMB

K'taka ranked first in India's justice delivery system

Karnataka has emerged as the top state in the country for justice delivery, becoming the only state in India to achieve 100 per cent reservation compliance for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes in both the judiciary and police departments. According to the India Justice Report 2025, prepared in collaboration with Tata Trusts, the state also secured top ranks in key pillars of justice — 3rd in policing, 2nd in prison management, 4th in judiciary, and 1st in legal aid — earning an overall score of 6.78 out of 10. The report highlights that since 2017, Karnataka is amongst six high courts in the country to dispose of more cases annually than those filed. The Justice Report evaluates states based on four pillars — policing, prison administration, judiciary, and legal aid — to assess and improve justice delivery. — BMB

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Moily's mic drop

Veteran Congress leader and former CM Veerappa Moily served a reality check with grace and grit — saying he never regretted missing the Chief Minister's seat despite helming the party from 1979 to 1995. "Others like Gundu Rao and Bangarappa got the top job. I didn't, and that's okay," he remarked, subtly responding to AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge's recent disappointment over being overlooked in 1999. Moily further added that being CM isn't about longing or lobbying — "Even Deputy CMs may never get promoted. Don't sulk, just serve," he quipped, throwing shade that seemed tailor-made for DK Shivakumar.

Beg, borrow, donate

Meet Rangamma, a no-frills granny from a tin shed in Raichur district, who doesn't just beg for a living—she begs for giving. Living off alms, the penniless yet priceless old woman quietly squirrelled away Rs 1.83 lakh in a cloth bag, only to hand it over for the construction of a shiny new flagpole at the local Hanuman temple. When counted, her crinkled cash stunned everyone. Turns out, this isn't her first divine deposit—just a few years ago, she dropped Rs 3 lakh into the village Shiva temple's kitty. All this while living in a shack that's been looted before.

Vertical limit

At 77, most prefer recliners over rocky climbs—but not Karnataka Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot. In a special feat, the Governor scaled the steep 575 stone steps of the sacred Anjanadri Hill in just 30 minutes—without a single pause. While younger devotees puff their way up in double the time, Gehlot breezed through. Reaching the shrine by 7.45 am with family in tow, he offered prayers, posed for selfies with his granddaughter, and even checked out the stone chariot—all with the cheer of a teenager on temple tour duty. Faith, fitness, and flair—Gehlot brought all three!

Less rants, more grants

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar didn't hold back when asked about the metro extension and double decker flyover plans—he cheekily called out certain MPs for being better at noise-making than fund-raising. "If they could channel half their protest energy into bringing in some grants for Bengaluru, that'd be truly helpful," he quipped, taking a not-so-subtle dig at BJP MPs. "Everyone loves spotting flaws, but nobody talks about finances. Acquiring land and paying compensation isn't cheap—BBMP and BMRCL can't foot the bill alone," he said. And when it came to safety clearances for the Yellow Line, he had a sharp jab ready. "The Commissioner of Metro Railway Safety gave the green light on July 31. But Tejasvi Surya? He's in too much of a hurry. Young man's eager, but this isn't a college project—it's a citywide transit system. We can't afford to rush," Shivakumar said.

All aboard the birthday train!

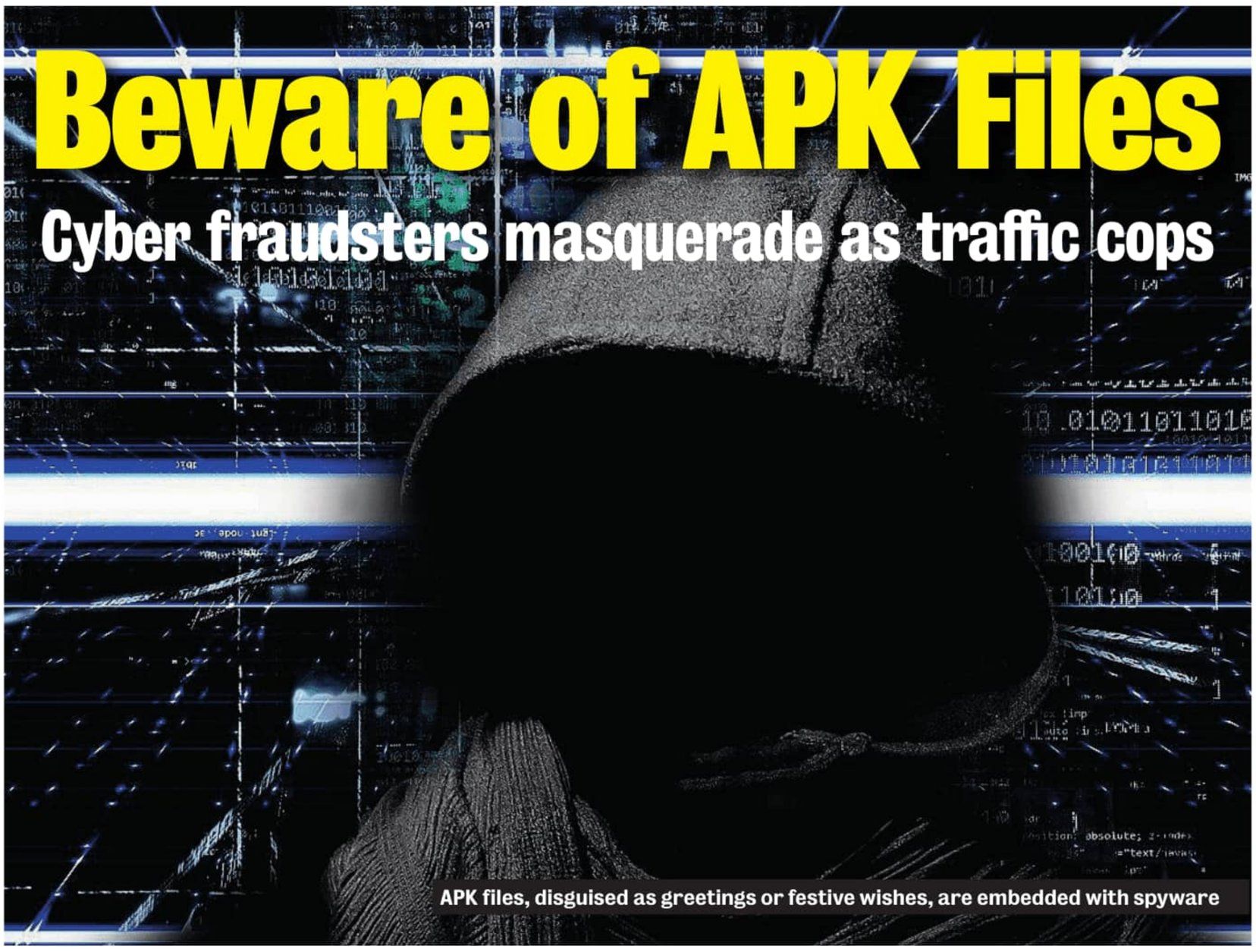
In a heartwarming show of gratitude and nostalgia, daily commuters at Tumakuru Railway Station celebrated the 12th birthday of the Tumakuru-Bengaluru Fast Passenger train — with cake, flowers, and a sense of kinship. Organised by the Railway Passengers' Forum, the celebration wasn't just about a train — it was a tribute to a service that many consider family. The cake-cutting ceremony even saw the loco pilot and railway staff join in, much to the delight of regulars. Back in 2012, a change in train timings had left many stranded, but thanks to persistent appeals to then Railway Minister Mallikarjun Kharge, this new train was introduced. "We celebrate its birthday every year in gratitude," said Forum President Karnam Ramesh.

Green sarees & gossip

A curious buzz has taken over North Karnataka — a viral claim says mothers of two sons must be invited to their maternal home, draped in green sarees, adorned with green bangles, and given ceremonial farewell to avoid misfortune. With no clarity on who started it or why, families are rushing to saree shops in places like Dharwad, Gadag, and Koppal, fueling a surprise boom in green saree sales. While rooted in hearsay, elders say the tradition — real or imagined — is at least rekindling ties between daughters and their maternal homes. — Sridhar Vivan

Beware of APK Files

Cyber fraudsters masquerade as traffic cops



APK files, disguised as greetings or festive wishes, are embedded with spyware

Sridhar.Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

Cybercriminals are now posing as traffic police, sending deceptive APK (Android Package Kit) files via WhatsApp under the pretext of unpaid traffic fines. One click on such a file can lead to a hacked phone—and a drained bank account within minutes.

In a recent case, NS Shivanandswamy (58) from Kengeri fell victim to this scam and lost ₹1.5 lakh from his elderly mother Gangamma's Canara Bank account. The fraudsters sent a WhatsApp message claiming a traffic fine was pending and attached an APK file link. The message warned that a warrant would be issued unless the fine was paid immediately by clicking the link.

"Traffic violation notices are sent only by post or through official government portals. No traffic fine payments are requested via WhatsApp links –A senior officer

Trusting it to be an official message from the police, Shivanandswamy clicked on the file. His phone immediately stopped responding, and within moments, the money from the bank account was siphoned off using auto-collected OTPs. He has since filed a complaint with the Kengeri police and contacted the Cyber Helpline 1930.

Cyber experts warn that these APK files, disguised as greetings or festive wishes, are embedded with spyware. "The moment users click such files, hackers gain access to phone data, including OTPs linked to bank accounts," said a cyber expert. Experts strongly advise against downloading APKs from any source other than the official Play Store or App Store, and recommended installing antivirus software to detect such threats. The police, too, have clarified that traffic violation notices are sent only by post or through official government portals. "No traffic fine payments are requested via WhatsApp links," said a senior officer.

They urged the public not to trust APK files, even if sent by known contacts, as scammers often exploit compromised accounts. This alarming trend highlights the urgent need for digital vigilance. One wrong click can cost you your savings—stay alert and verify before you act.

Dept cracks the whip on wayward professors

Professors are now required to maintain detailed daily schedule of their duties, with any discrepancies or failure to produce records inviting disciplinary action

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TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

In a move aimed at reining in errant faculty, the Department of Collegiate Education has mandated strict monitoring of professors in government and aided first-grade colleges. Following a spate of complaints about absenteeism, indiscipline, and even political distractions in classrooms, the department has now made daily log books compulsory for all teaching staff.

With three-tier monitoring system in place, logbooks to be signed weekly by department heads, verified monthly by principals, along with surprise visits by senior officers

Professors will now be required to maintain a detailed daily schedule of their duties, get it signed weekly by their department heads, and submit it monthly to the principal for verification. Despite earlier instructions, many colleges reportedly failed to enforce this protocol, leading to declining classroom engagement and academic performance.

Commissioner N Manjushree emphasised that a standardised workload has now been assigned to every faculty member, totalling 40 hours per week, which includes 16 hours of direct teaching, 8 hours of lecture preparation, 4 hours for practical classes, 4 hours of extracurricular activities, and time allotted for tutorials, test administration, and administrative support.

To ensure accountability, a three-tier monitoring system has been introduced. Senior officers, including joint directors and central office inspectors, will conduct surprise visits to verify these logbooks. Any discrepancies or failure to produce records will be treated as dereliction of duty, inviting disciplinary action. The message is clear: the era of academic freeloading is over, and the department wants every professor to earn their chalk—hour by hour.

SIM card threat, digital arrest ends up costing man ₹34.69L

Victim took personal loan, pledged gold, withdrew PF, LIC policies, and borrowed from financial apps to transfer money in scam that lasted for over 20 days

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While a break-up of digital arrests data is not available, police officials told BM that these cases are increasing and now it has evolved with fraudsters devising new lies daily. In a recent case, a software employee lost ₹34.69 lakh for which he took loans, pledged gold, and withdrew provident fund, to cyber fraudsters, who impersonated law enforcement and investigative officials. The new trick involved claiming the victim's SIM card was being used to send harassment messages, followed by a fake two-day "digital arrest".

According to the complaint filed on July 20 at the East CEN crime police station, the victim received a call on July 5 from a man claiming that someone was using his SIM card to send harassment messages. The caller claimed that he would help by issuing a "No Objection Certificate" and asked for the victim's card details. The conversation then shifted to WhatsApp. The fraud began on July 5 and continued until July 28, during which the victim was kept under constant video surveillance via WhatsApp for two days and coerced into transferring funds to multiple accounts. The scam operated remotely through calls and WhatsApp from unidentified locations. The case has been registered in Mumbai, though the victim resides in Bengaluru.

Fraudsters convinced the victim that he was under investigation and needed to cooperate to avoid arrest. Claiming a court hearing was imminent, they demanded he transfer large sums as "bail security" to designated accounts.

The victim transferred amounts ranging from ₹9,999 to ₹15 lakh in multiple transactions via IMPS, RTGS, and UPI to various bank accounts. To arrange these payments, the victim liquidated their assets and raised funds through personal loans, gold pledges, provident fund withdrawals, LIC policies, and loans from financial apps.

The total loss amounts to ₹34,69,799, with the last transaction made on July 24. The victim reported the incident to his family on July 29 before filing formal complaints. The victim also approached Colaba Police Station in Mumbai and the national cybercrime portal (1930 helpline).

Sanchar Saathi: Citizens' defence

Chetan Anand, National Cyber Security Scholar and Cybercrime Intervention Officer, explained that

fraudsters may claim you have three SIM offers, that your SIM is about to expire, or ask you to register it on a portal. "They keep inventing new lies once people learn the old tricks. The safest approach is to never share personal details with strangers. Out of fear and compulsion, innocent citizens are paying up their hard-earned money and becoming victims of newer forms of digital arrest."

"Out of fear, citizens lose their money and become victims of new forms of digital arrest– Chetan Anand, cyber security expert

Sanchar Saathi, an initiative by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), aims to empower mobile subscribers, enhance security, and promote awareness of citizen-focused services. Available as a mobile app and at www.sancharsaathi.gov.in, it offers several useful tools. Through tafcop.sancharsaathi.gov.in, users can check all mobile connections under their name and report unfamiliar numbers using the "This is not my number" option for prompt action by authorities.

"The Chakshu feature enables citizens to report unsolicited commercial communication (UCC) or spam calls/SMS not matching their registered preferences, as per TRAI's 2018 TCCCPR regulations. Complaints must be filed within three days for action," said Chetan Anand.

>> Pg9

Radhika Apte reveals shocking insensitivity during pregnancy

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WALK-IN DRIVE

Interface Managers: **Designations:** Managers | **Department:** Projects | **Qualification:** BE/B Tech/Civil /Mech/Electrical | **Experience required :** 15+ years | **Mandatory experience in metro & railway project required :** 5+ years | **Job Description:** Interface manager will manage and document design interface between all deciplines and stake holders

Design Architect / Architectural Engineer / BIM Manager: **Designations:** AM/DM/MGR | **Department:** Design | **Qualification:** B.Arch/M.Arch | **Experience required :** 07-15 years | **Mandatory experience in metro & railway project required :** 3-7 years | **Job Description:** Experienced in the design of Elevated Metro / Railways and under ground structures of large infrastructure project.

Project Geotech Engineers: **Designations:** SE/DPM | **Department:** Geotechnical | **Qualification:** MSC (Geology) or M Tech (Geo Tech) | **Experience required :** 10-12 years | **Mandatory experience in metro & railway project required :** 3-5 years | **Job Description:** Experience in geotechnical site investigation and reporting.

Project Execution Team: **Designations:** JE/AE/SE/DPM | **Department:** Civil/Projects | **Qualification:** BE/B Tech/Civil | **Experience required :** 06-15 years | **Mandatory experience in metro & railway project required :** 3-7 years | **Job Description:** Experience in Metro (elevated) & Railway construction, major infrastructure design and build projects including design management, project management and construction supervision including the structures/stations.

Project QA & QC Team: **Designations:** AE/SE/DPM | **Department:** QA/QC | **Qualification:** BE/B Tech/Civil | **Experience required :** 07-15 years | **Mandatory experience in metro & railway project required :** 3-7 years | **Job Description:** Experienced in management of quality control systems in Elevated Metro / Railways on large transport infrastructure project.

Project QS/Planning Team: **Designations:** AE/SE/DPM | **Department:** QS & Planning | **Qualification:** BE/B Tech/Civil | **Experience required :** 07-15 years | **Mandatory experience in metro & railway project required :** 3-5 years | **Job Description:** Experienced in Project Management, Primavera P6 Software/Client Billing/ Contractor Billings/Identifying risks to the project and a Systematic Approach and Developing.

Project HSE: **Designations:** Officer/AM/DM | **Department:** HSE | **Qualification:** BE/B Tech-Civil & PG Diploma in Safety Management | **Experience required :** 06-12 years | **Mandatory experience in metro & railway project required :** 3-5 years | **Job Description:** Experienced in management of Health, Safety & Enviroment Assurance systems or large transport infrastructure projects Including OHSAS 18001, ISO 14001 compliance.

Project Contract Lead: **Designations:** AM | **Department:** Contracts | **Qualification:** BE/B Tech/Civil | **Experience required :** 07-10 years | **Mandatory experience in metro & railway project required :** 3-5 years | **Job Description:** Should have knowledge in letter drafting (EOTs, Extra claims and rate analysis), client billing, FIDIIC, dispute resolution, arbitration, pre-contract & post contract and monthly MIS reports of claims.

Project Launching & Erection: **Designations:** AE/SE/DPM | **Department:** Launching & Erection | **Qualification:** BE/B Tech-Mech | **Experience required :** 07-10 years | **Mandatory experience in metro & railway project required :** 5 years | **Job Description:** Having experience in Erection of U-Girder/I-Girder/Station Pier Arm, Launching Girder (LG) in Elevated Metro Project. Experience of different precast elements erection by LG & crane will be preferred.

Interested candidates are requested to attend the interview at the address provided below. Please bring all relevant documents.

M/s. NCC LIMITED, 372/373, Sridevi Properties, Major Akshay Girish Kumar Road, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore - 560064. Landmark: Opp. Cambridge Public School, Timings: 10:00 AM – 04:00 PM, 14th August 2025

1) Candidates matching the above criteria are only allowed for Interview.
2) Profiles with 30 days' notice period will be preferred.

Email ID: rob.hr@ncclimited.in
Contact: 080 2225 3309
Website: www.ncclimited.com

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I Sugunavathamma C W/O, Anand Rao C R/o # 10 and 10 A,10th Cross, Sir M.V.Layout, Thindlu, Vidyaranyapura Post Bengaluru 560097 have changed my name to Shobha Rao C

I, Brijesh Kumar Hosamani Resident At No 12, Samruddhi Arcade, 1st Main, 2nd Cross, Netaji Nagar, Ha Farm Post, Hebbal Kempapura, Bengaluru- 560024 have changed my name to BRIJESHKUMAR BASAVARAJ HOSAMANI vide affidavit dated: 13.05.2025 Sworn before notary: D Sarala Kumari, Bengaluru

I, SHANKARAPPA N, Residing at #6, 2nd Cross, Chunchagatta Main Road, Uttarahalli, Bangalore - 560062, have changed my name to SHANKAR NARAYANAPPA, vide affidavit dated 08/08/2025, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore.

I, PABATHI HEMANTH Residing at B -703, Sattva Opus, 8th Mile Circle, T Dasarahalli Bangalore – 560057, have changed my name to PABBATHI HEMANTH, vide affidavit dated 26/06/2025, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore.

LOST & FOUND

LOST my Documents 10th (Class -X) - Marksheet , Migration and Pass certificate 12th (Class - 12) - Marksheet Migration and Pass certificate BTech - Marsheets(1st - 8th Semester) , Passing Certificate. Birth Certificate NCC - A certificate BSNL training certificates And Previous Employers experience certificates . If anyone find it kindly connect Name - Arnab Chanda Phone no- 9365538510

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GALLERIA

Many scams operating from outside state

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the shared number, their mobile is compromised — giving hackers control of their phone.

Police said that once a phone is hacked, the attackers deactivate it and begin messaging the victim's friends and family, asking for emergency money transfers. They often share Google Pay numbers or UPI IDs. Many people, unaware of the hack, end up transferring money, thinking their loved one is in distress. Several such cases have now been officially registered across the state.

Cyber Crime police say tracking the culprits is proving difficult. Most scams are operated from northern Indian states using fake SIM cards and bank accounts opened in different regions. Within seconds of receiving money, it is routed through multiple accounts, and the original devices are destroyed.

New-age tricks

Hackers are also sending APK files via WhatsApp under the guise of government schemes like PM-KISAN, Arogya Bhagya, vehicle registration updates, bank notifications, and more. Once installed, these apps gain unauthorised access to bank accounts. The stolen money is quickly transferred across various accounts, leaving no trace. Police said that online gaming apps are another danger zone — cybercriminals lure users with promises of easy money, only to exploit their investments. Many users are now facing frozen bank accounts after unknowingly transferring money into fake gaming platforms used for money laundering.

COMMON SCAMS

Fake Officials Scam: Calls posing as CBI, customs, or police officers, claiming drug-filled parcels are booked under your name.

Part-Time Job Fraud: Victims are lured with high-paying job offers and persuaded to "invest" in fraudulent schemes.

Fake APK Links: Malware apps disguised as official portals steal banking credentials.

Emergency Payment Requests: Hackers message contacts using the victim's number to request urgent funds.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

- If you sense fraud, report to the nearest cyber police station immediately.
- **Golden Hour Alert:** Report the incident within one hour by calling the national cyber crime helpline 1930.
- Avoid clicking on suspicious links or installing apps from unknown sources.
- Always verify unexpected calls, especially those requesting payments or OTPs.

Rs 80,000 paid as ex-gratia...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

conflict cases," said a senior official from the Karnataka Forest Department.

Notably, the Tourism Department is fast pushing the Roerich eco-tourism plan after it received approval from the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, in November 2024. The Tourism Department Commissioner conducted a field visit to the Estate last week and took stock of the situation.

Devika Rani and Roerich Estate has a dry deciduous forest and is one of the last remaining lung spaces of Bengaluru. Out of the 470 acres of the estate, nearly 100 acres are notified as a reserve forest, and the remaining area has been notified as deemed forest by the Government of Karnataka.

KFD officials say the project defeats the purpose of the Roerich and Devika Rani Roerich Estate (Acquisition and Transfer) Act, 1996.

"The land under the Roerich and Devika Rani Roerich Estate (Acquisition and Transfer) Act was acquired for a specific purpose – to manage the Estate and preserve its biodiversity. It is one of the few naturally grown forests around Bengaluru. Any disturbance in this area, including opening it for tourism purposes as proposed by the Tourism Department, will cause habitat degradation of wildlife, including Schedule I animals under the Wildlife (Protection) Act," said another official.

The estate is home to wildlife such as smooth-coated otters, chital, rusty spotted cats, muntjac, etc. Experts say the eco-tourism project would cause harm to the wildlife.

According to the department, residents living not far away from the Estate are also facing a surge in monkey menace. Bangalore Development Authority's (BDA) six layout project in the area has already received the state government's approval. If the eco-tourism project is also given a green signal, it will wreak havoc.

"We are receiving nearly five cases of monkey menace every week. A large number of trees have been cut in southern Bengaluru between the Devika Rani/Roerich Estate and Turahalli forest to construct high-rise buildings.

The residents of Sobha Forest View, for instance, are facing the issue on a regular basis. Under WLPA, bonnet macaques are Schedule I species, like elephants and leopards. How does the government propose handling so many Schedule I species that will be left homeless due to these projects," said a visibly upset KFD official.

STAR STYLE

How B-Town stars are inspiring everyday fashion with iconic style statements

In a world where celebrity style often feels out of reach, Bollywood stars are proving that iconic fashion can be wearable.

Their everyday looks, smart, approachable and effortlessly stylish, are inspiring everyday wardrobes.

From bold streetwear to minimalist dressing, each star brings a signature twist, showing how to look polished without overdoing it. These style statements create a feeling of cool that every person can aspire to achieve and especially so for the fans of these stars. **— ETimes**

Ahaan Panday: Gen Z uber cool with a dash of charm

Ahaan Panday, star of 'Saiyaara', delivers a Gen Z casual vibe that's both comfortable and effortlessly cool. He often sports a printed black hoodie paired with a bright yellow beanie that adds a playful pop of colour. His messy hair and relaxed presentation give off a friendly, chocolate-boy charm. The hoodie's subtle print keeps the look interesting without being overwhelming, while the beanie keeps things youthful and fun. This combo proves that everyday fashion can be statement-making without sacrificing comfort, Gen Z style with personality and ease.

Salman Khan: Classic cool with a vintage vibe

Salman Khan, Bollywood's beloved Bhaijaan, brings low-key charisma to his daily attire. His choice of a classic navy-blue long-sleeve T-shirt or sweatshirt, paired with minimal accessories, just a crisp haircut and his signature sunglasses, channels serious early 2000's nostalgia. The look is understated yet never plain. By focusing on texture, fit and attitude, he shows that comfort can be compelling. Salman's style is proof that even the simplest outfit can resonate when approached with confidence and a clear sense of personal style.

Alia Bhatt: Elevated simplicity in white shirt & jeans

Alia Bhatt shows how a classic white shirt with blue jeans can feel elevated when styled thoughtfully. Her semi-sheer white shirt, with subtle logo embroidery, full-length sleeves rolled up slightly and one top button left open, achieves a relaxed yet chic vibe. She pairs it with loose-fit, mid-rise jeans featuring a frayed hem. Cleverly accessorised with a burgundy sling bag, black sunglasses and delicate hoop earrings, the look balances elegance and casualness. Each accessory is chosen to enhance the simple base outfit, showing that polish lies in thoughtful details.

Suhana Khan: Styling basics with flair

Suhana Khan, daughter of Shah Rukh Khan, demonstrates how everyday basics can be elevated with a few considered touches. She layered a body-con, acid-washed denim mini dress under a knee-length light brown trench coat with tied-up detailing and full sleeves. The ensemble creates contrast between form-fitting and structured outerwear. She accessorised with tortoiseshell-framed rectangular sunglasses, a lime yellow Bottega bag slung over her shoulder, delicate diamond chain jewellery and even a fresh daisy clipped in her hair. The look strikes a balance between youthful charm and sophistication, showing how accessories and layering can turn basics into a fashion moment.

Vicky Kaushal: Red-hot street style with swagger

Vicky Kaushal knows how to make the heat rise both on-screen and on the pavement. His recent streetwear featured a bold red jacket over a plain white shirt, teamed with casual blue jeans and crisp white sneakers. He topped it off with sleek black sunglasses. The striking jacket colour contrasts beautifully with the simplicity of the rest, making the outfit edgy yet effortless. Vicky reminds us that street fashion isn't about blending in—it's about making your presence felt with swagger and charm.

Anushka Sharma: Chic yet relaxed every day

Anushka Sharma looks effortlessly refined in her denim vest and white trousers combination. The sleeveless denim vest, with a round neckline, functional pockets and silver-toned buttons, fits her figure well, lending the outfit a clean, modern aesthetic. She teams it with relaxed white trousers with a flared hem that softens the structured vest. The colour-blocking between denim and white creates visual character, while keeping it approachable. Anushka finishes the ensemble with transparent pumps and simple silver stud earrings, reinforcing that everyday chic doesn't need over-elaboration. It's sleek, modern boss-babe energy in a daily casual format.

Radhika Apte reveals shocking insensitivity during pregnancy

Radhika Apte recently became a mom. The actress announced the birth of a baby girl in December 2024. Recently Radhika spoke about an experience during her pregnancy in a chat with Neha Dhupia for her 'Freedom To Feed' initiative. Speaking about her experience on an Indian project, Radhika revealed: "An Indian producer I was working with wasn't happy about the news," she said, recalling the cold reception she received after announcing her pregnancy. "He responded coldly and even insisted I wear tight-fitting clothes despite my discomfort and bloating. I was in my first trimester and had constant cravings, I was eating a lot, be it rice or pasta and going through the usual physical changes, but instead of understanding, I was met with insensitivity. I wasn't even allowed to see a doctor when I was in pain and feeling uneasy on set. That truly disheartened me."

Her voice also carried gratitude when she compared that experience to a Hollywood production she was part of during the same period. The contrast couldn't have been clearer. "The Hollywood filmmaker I was working with was so supportive. When I mentioned I was eating more than usual and might look like a completely different person by the end of the shoot, he laughed and said, 'Don't worry, even if you're another person by the end of this project, it's fine. Because you're pregnant.' That reassurance and warmth meant the world to me."

— ETimes

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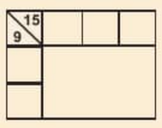
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

$6x - 9 + 4 = 5x + 10x - 8$

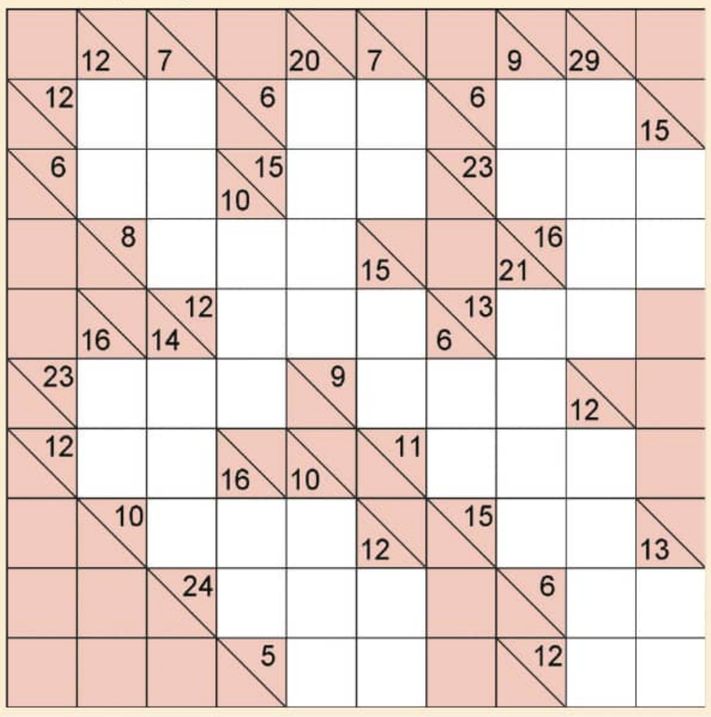
$x = ?$

Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Linemaro

You stole my heart, so can I steal your last name?

Mindchow

Writing books is the closest men ever come to childbearing

Joke of the day

The cool part about naming your kid is you don't have to add six numbers to make sure the name is available

Loop

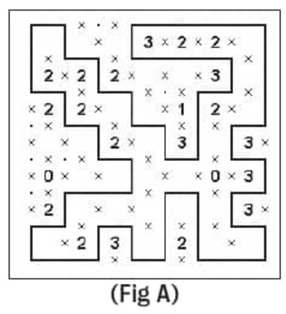
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

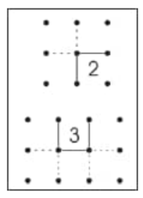
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

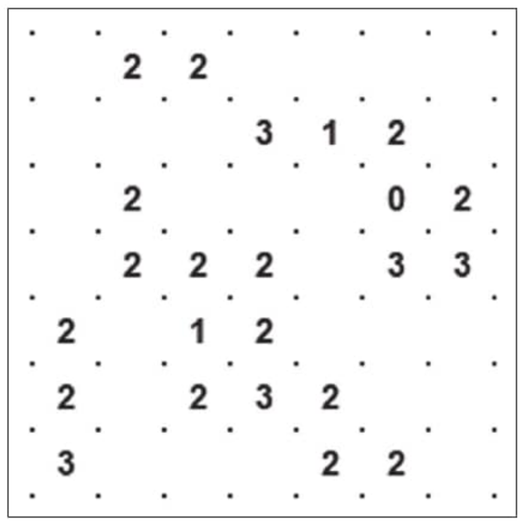
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



SudokuChallenge

9		7	6			5		4
	8		7					2
				5	9		6	
5						1		
1	6						3	8
		3						6
	7		2	9				
4					7		2	
2		9			1	6		5

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 8

3 4 7 8

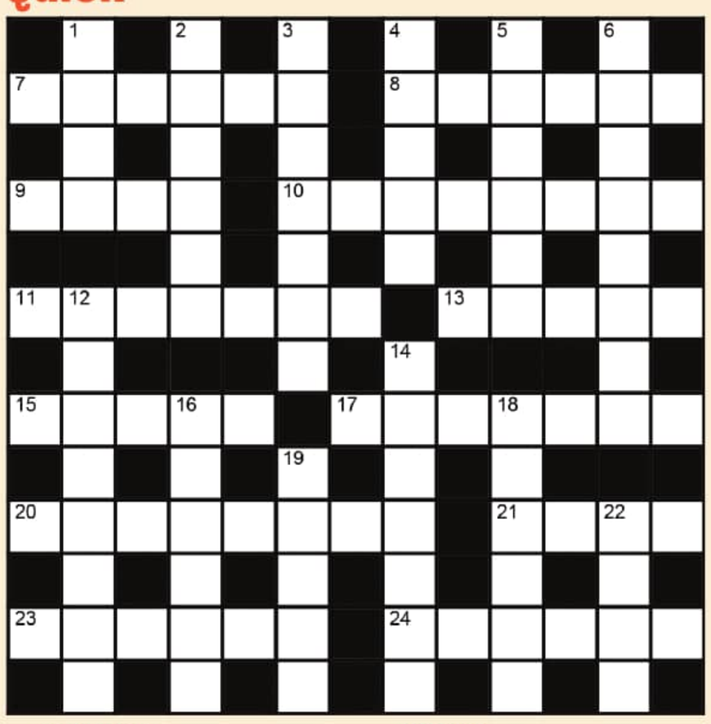
Medium = 14

7 4 7 9

Hard = 41

5 8 8 9

Quick



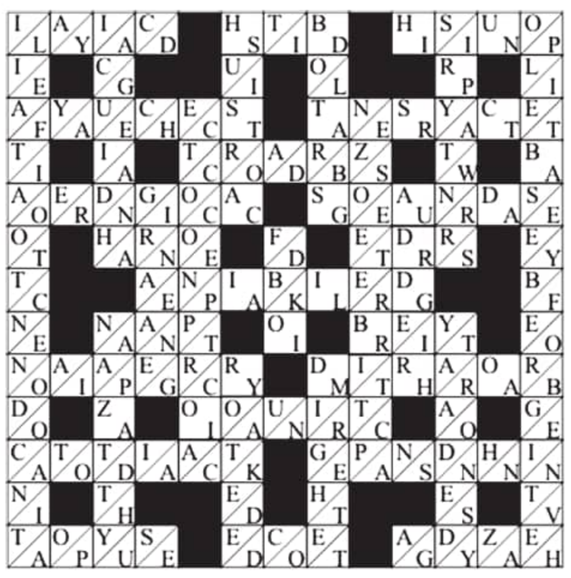
ACROSS

7 US writer, Truman..... (6)
8 ___ after : attended to or took care of? (6)
9 Middle Eastern restaurant on Coles Road (4)
10 Make a written note of? (4,4)
11 At one __ ___ : bewildered or perplexed (4,3)
13 Nasal sound (5)
15 Tiny particle (5)
17 Breach of faith or trust (7)
20 Defeats very narrowly (5,3)
21 A very small brook; a rivulet (4)
23 Annoyed, upset (6)
24 Twenty-four hours? (3,3)

DOWN

1 A donut shaped savoury South Indian dish (4)
2 Drenches or marinates; soaks (6)
3 Suicidal rodent (7)
4 Watchful (5)
5 Flash ___ : comic strip hero? (6)
6 Columbus's America? (3,5)
12 Makes or becomes better (8)
14 Department or division (7)
16 Split open (6)
18 Counterfeiter (6)
19 Verbose (5)
22 Irish writer O'Flaherty (4)

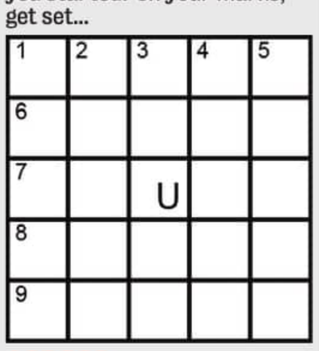
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

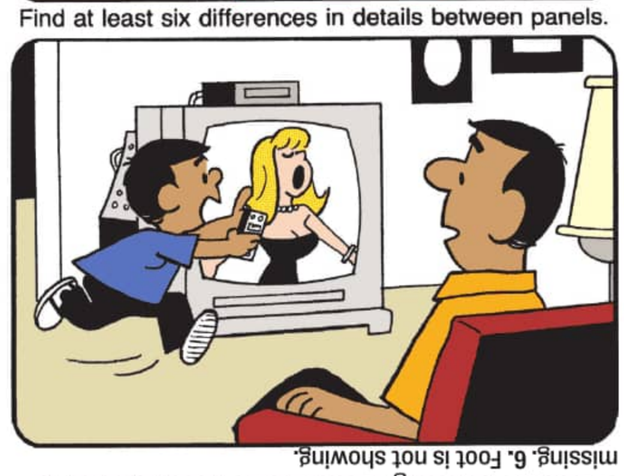
1 Taste; 6 Rille;
7 Up Coe; 8 An ape;
9 Glees

DOWN

1 I talc; 2 E Pole;
3 Lungs; 4 EE Pet;
5 As are

Hocusfocus

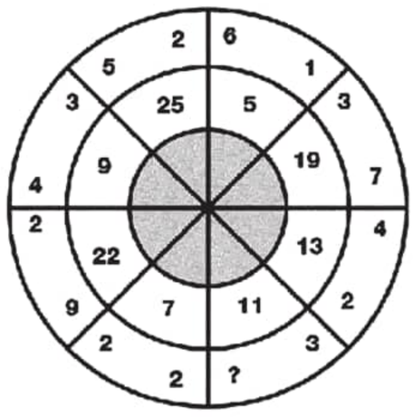
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Lampshade is different. 2. Mouth is open. 3. Bracelet is missing. 4. Cable box is moved. 5. Pillow is missing. 6. Foot is not showing.

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark and completes the wheel?



Riddler

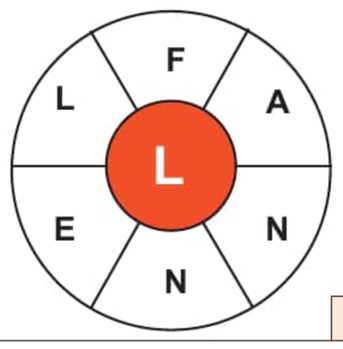
How can the numbers 6, 1, 7 and 9 be arranged to make 24?

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: K EQUALS T

RTK TRNP AW KFZ HRAIZQWZ WKQSRBZQ KFSR MZ ALSBARZ, AK AW WKQSRBZQ KFSR MZ VSR ALSBARZ.



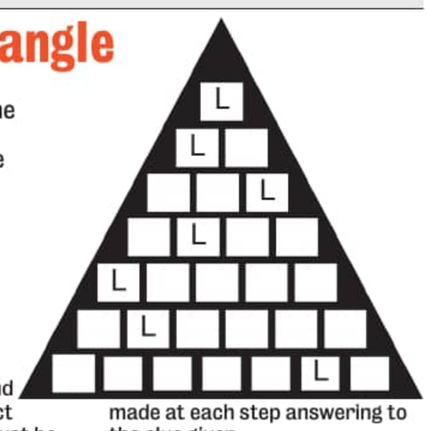
Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

05 Average; **06** Good; **08** Outstanding

Alpha triangle

1 XXV + XXV
2 51 in ancient Rome
3 Sesame plant
4 Narrow aperture
5 Elevators
6 Coquettes
7 Initially

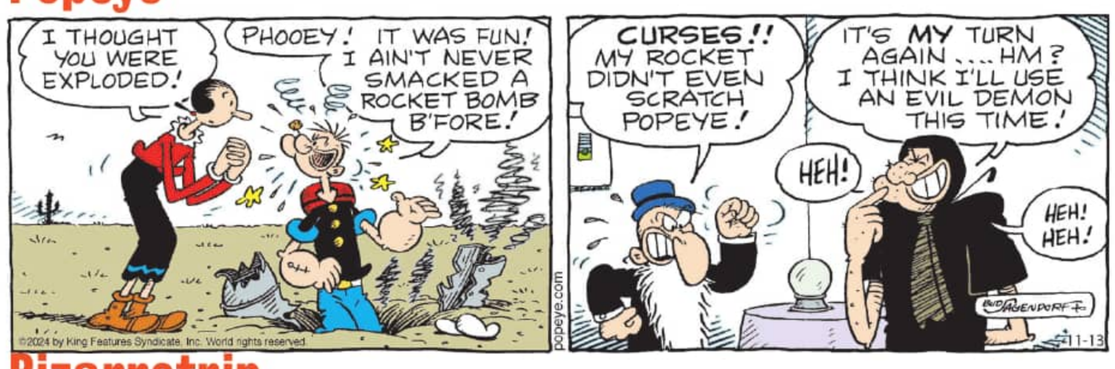


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye


I THOUGHT YOU WERE EXPLODED!
PHOOEY! IT WAS FUN! I AIN'T NEVER SMACKED A ROCKET BOMB B'FORE!
CURSES!! MY ROCKET DIDN'T EVEN SCRATCH POPEYE!
IT'S MY TURN AGAIN ... HM? I THINK I'LL USE AN EVIL DEMON THIS TIME!
HEH!
HEH! HEH!
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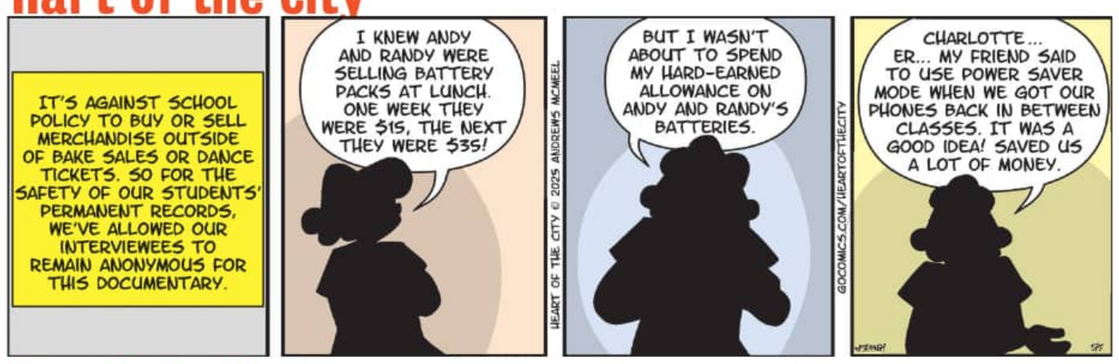
popeye.com
11-13

Bizarrotrip

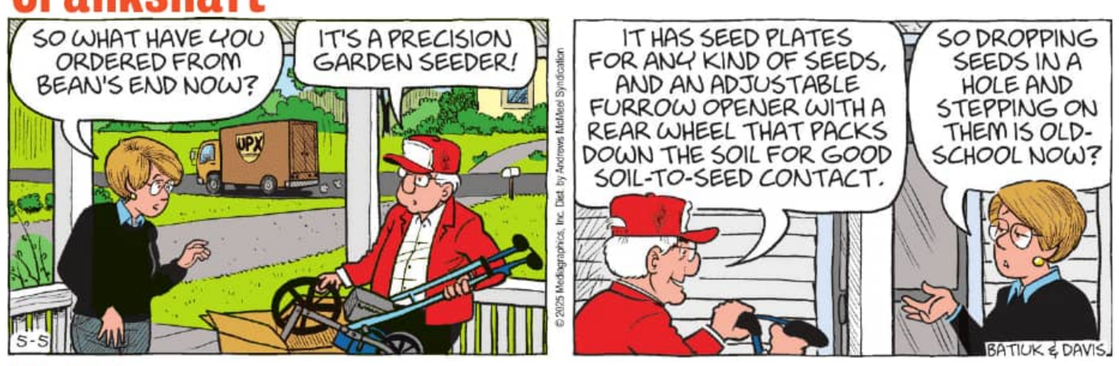
Wayno & 2 Pirates 5-5-25
BIZARRO.COM
©2025 Bizarro Studios
All the world's a stage, and we're merely players who are at times self-aware or self-referential.
Dist. by King Features
META METAPHOR

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city


IT'S AGAINST SCHOOL POLICY TO BUY OR SELL MERCHANDISE OUTSIDE OF BAKE SALES OR DANCE TICKETS. SO FOR THE SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS' PERMANENT RECORDS, WE'VE ALLOWED OUR INTERVIEWEES TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS FOR THIS DOCUMENTARY.
I KNEW ANDY AND RANDY WERE SELLING BATTERY PACKS AT LUNCH. ONE WEEK THEY WERE $15, THE NEXT THEY WERE $35!
BUT I WASN'T ABOUT TO SPEND MY HARD-EARNED ALLOWANCE ON ANDY AND RANDY'S BATTERIES.
CHARLOTTE... ER... MY FRIEND SAID TO USE POWER SAVER MODE WHEN WE GOT OUR PHONES BACK IN BETWEEN CLASSES. IT WAS A GOOD IDEA! SAVED US A LOT OF MONEY.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


SO WHAT HAVE YOU ORDERED FROM BEAN'S END NOW?
IT'S A PRECISION GARDEN SEEDER!
IT HAS SEED PLATES FOR ANY KIND OF SEEDS, AND AN ADJUSTABLE FURROW OPENER WITH A REAR WHEEL THAT PACKS DOWN THE SOIL FOR GOOD SOIL-TO-SEED CONTACT.
SO DROPPING SEEDS IN A HOLE AND STEPPING ON THEM IS OLD-SCHOOL NOW?
UPX
5-5
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BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

A CHEER FOR THE HUMAN RACE.
SAVE THE PLANET YOU'RE THE MAN! IF YOU CAN'T DO IT— NOBODY CAN!
I THOUGHT WE COULD USE SOME PEP.
mutts.com
www.kingfeatures.com
5-5

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, the blessings of elders may bring you a sense of calm and renewed focus. Your patience will help you progress toward your goals. You're likely to perform well both in business and at home. A healthy balance between income and expenditure may boost your savings.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Feelings of dissatisfaction may arise today, making you feel lazy or unmotivated. This may slow down your progress at work. Lovebirds are advised to delay making major decisions regarding marriage. Job seekers may face disappointment in interviews.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Your inner strength and positivity may bring happiness today. Short-term gains from investments are likely. Your rapport with your boss may improve, possibly leading to a promotion. Your social reputation will grow, and work-related travel may be on the horizon.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, the Moon's blessings will bring positive energy. Your hard work may earn you a higher position or recognition. You'll perform better at work and may meet an influential person who offers guidance. Domestic issues will be managed smoothly, bringing peace at home.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
A sense of joy may uplift your mood today. A visit to a spiritual or religious place could bring inner strength and clarity. You may also contribute to a charitable cause. Overseas travel related to work or education is likely. Couples may find compatibility, and singles could meet a potential soulmate.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
You may feel physically and emotionally low today. Health issues could affect your mood, and arrogance may create tension with those around you. To maintain harmony at home, avoid harsh words. Refrain from making new investments, as they may not yield returns.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
A favourable day lies ahead. Investments may bring solid returns, improving your financial condition. Stuck money might get released, increasing business liquidity. You'll feel more confident and will be able to manage hidden rivals effectively. Singles may find love, possibly in their workplace or professional circle.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
You'll likely feel healthy and energetic today. Past health issues may resolve. Good news from a close relative could brighten your day. You'll perform well at work, and colleagues may support you in handling a critical project. Trust in your team will grow, and your social status may improve. A legal matter might also turn in your favour.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today may bring some challenges. Seeking guidance from elders will help you navigate the situation. Patience is key. Concerns regarding children's education may arise, and a short trip related to academics could be planned. Investors should avoid speculative decisions for now.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
A sense of dissatisfaction may bother you today. You might not see immediate results from your hard work, which could lead to frustration. Carefully review any documents before signing new contracts. Investment in assets is possible, but follow your intuition before making long-term commitments.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You may be engaged in social gatherings or family functions today, which can expand your network. A short work-related trip might also be planned. Disputes with siblings may be resolved. Support from subordinates will help complete a challenging project. Stay patient in your interactions.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Family gatherings may keep you busy today. Your polite and warm behaviour will enhance your image among relatives and friends. You may spend money on decorative items or luxury goods, boosting your social status. Good news from a close relative is likely.

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SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
6x-5 = 15x-8
6x-15x =-8+5
-9x = -3
X = 3/9 =
X = 1/3

BULL'S EYE
fall, fallen, fell, FLANNEL, flea, lane, leaf, lean

STRIKE OUT

L	A	I	C		S	I	B		I	S	U	P		
I		G		U		L		P				L		
F	A	U	C	E	T		A	E	R	A	T	E		
T		A		C	R	A	B	S		W		A		
A	R	N	I	C	A		S	O	U	N	D	S		
T		A	R	E		F		T	D	S		E		
F		E	N	A	B	L	E	D				F		
T	E	N		I		R	E	T		O				
N	A	P	E	R	Y		M	I	R	R	O	R		
D		A		I	O	N	I	C		A		G		
A	T	T	A	C	K		G	A	N	D	H	I		
N		H		E		H		E				V		
T	O	Y	S		D	O	T		A	D	Z	E		

FAST FIVE

T	E	S	T	A
I	L	L	E	R
C	O	U	P	E
A	P	N	E	A
L	E	G	E	S

RIDDLER
(9 – 6) × (1 + 7) = 3 × 8
= 24

QUICK

		S		E		Y		N		R		M		
	P	E	E	V	E	D		O	N	E	D	A	Y	
	V		A		R			I		G		I		
N	O	S	E	S	O	U	T		R	I	L	L		
	R		L		W		C		O					
S	P	E	C	K		P	E	R	F	I	D	Y		
	M				G			S		L				
W	I	T	S	E	N	D		S	N	O	R	T		
		E		I		T		O		O				
Z	A	K	S		M		A	R	K	D	O	W	N	
	D		U		M		E		R		W			
C	A	P	O	T	E		L	O	O	K	E	D		
W		S		L		A		G		N				

MENSA PUZZLE
8. Multiply the 2 numbers in the outer segments together and add 1 to give the value in the inner segment opposite.

QUOTE UNCODE
Not only is the universe stranger than we imagine, it is stranger than we can imagine.

SUDOKU

9	1	7	6	2	3	5	8	4
6	8	5	7	1	4	3	9	2
3	4	2	8	5	9	7	6	1
5	2	8	9	3	6	1	4	7
1	6	4	5	7	2	9	3	8
7	9	3	1	4	8	2	5	6
8	7	6	2	9	5	4	1	3
4	5	1	3	6	7	8	2	9
2	3	9	4	8	1	6	7	5

ALPHA TRIANGLE
L, LI, TII, SIIt, Lifts, Flirts, Firstly.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 + 3 – 7 + 4 = 8
Medium
4 – 9 + 7 x 7 = 14
Hard
5 x 8 + 9 – 8 = 41

LOOP

KAKURO

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